



**United States Department of Agriculture  
National Agricultural Statistics Service**



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Cooperating with the Montana Department of Agriculture  
10 W 15<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 3100 · Helena, MT 59626

**March 2011 Red Meat Production**

For immediate release: April 21, 2011

For more information contact: Michael Johnson or Steve Anderson at 1-800-835-2612

Montana slaughter plants produced 1.0 million pounds, dressed weight, of red meat during March 2011, up 5 percent from March 2010. Cattle slaughter totaled 1,200 head, up 100 head from a year ago. The average live weight, at 1,181 pounds, decreased 8 pounds from last year.

During March there were 800 hogs slaughtered, up 100 head from a year ago. The average live weight, at 252 pounds, increased 15 pounds from last year. March sheep slaughter totaled 200 head, unchanged from March 2010. The average live weight decreased 8 pounds to 110 pounds from last year.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 4.35 billion pounds in March, up 2 percent from the 4.28 billion pounds produced in March 2010.

Beef production, at 2.27 billion pounds, was 2 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.96 million head, up 2 percent from March 2010. The average live weight was up 3 pounds from the previous year, at 1,276 pounds.

Veal production totaled 12.1 million pounds, 1 percent below March a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 72,900 head, down 9 percent from March 2010. The average live weight was up 24 pounds from last year, at 283 pounds.

Pork production totaled 2.05 billion pounds, up 1 percent from the previous year. Hog slaughter totaled 9.87 million head, down 2 percent from March 2010. The average live weight was up 6 pounds from the previous year, at 278 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.1 million pounds, was down 20 percent from March 2010. Sheep slaughter totaled 193,900 head, 26 percent below last year. The average live weight was 146 pounds, up 11 pounds from March a year ago.

January to March 2011 commercial red meat production was 12.2 billion pounds, up 2 percent from 2010. Accumulated beef production was up 3 percent from last year, veal was down 3 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was down 16 percent.

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